

Weston Commission for Children and Youth  
Minutes from the January 14, 2013 Meeting

In attendance: Charlene Monn, Michelle Albright, Ellen Weyrauch, Lynn Philips, Tiffany Davidson, Jeff Drobner, Dan Doak, Dawn Egan, Stacy Kamisar  
Student Commissioner: Emily Weyrauch  
Guest: Lois Pernice

Meeting called to order at 5:25 PM by Lynn Phillips.

December minutes approved. (Motion made by Dawn, seconded by Ellen)

Michelle's Office Report

- Meeting with staff across all schools to introduce and discuss needs and gaps in programming, and how we can coordinate services
- Discussion about security for WOW dismissals
  - Michelle and Charlene have met with administrators to discuss procedures
  - Previously school doors were open afterschool, however now doors are locked and administrators don't want parents to have unsupervised access to buildings
  - Need to balance security and safety with practical logistics (an evolving discussion)
  - We will continue to work with the administration to refine our policies to align with theirs

Charlene's Office Report

- Currently 29 WOW programs, going well
- All-Star Driver started January 2<sup>nd</sup>

Family University

- Lois Pernice discussed Family University which will be held on March 21<sup>st</sup>
- Topics will include
  - Social Media/Cyber-bullying (for students and parents)
  - Stress and Scheduling
  - A key note speaker from the Center for Social Sustainability
- Discussion about publicizing the event
  - PTO database not efficient; school messenger and notes from superintendent will be used to inform parents
- Eventual goal for Family University is to a parent-driven event (other towns have created nonprofit organization to organize and fund it)

Other Business

- Behavior Policy

- Some minor changes to the draft last presented including not specifying consequences so we can use our discretion in dealing with individual instances and circumstances. However, we will note that dismissal from the program is an option.
- It would be helpful to have more (advance) information about children who do have a history of behavioral issues but hopefully strengthening our connection with school counselors will support this
- Michelle is working with Lois Pernice and Louis Brey regarding confidentiality issues between schools and Youth Services
- Revised policy will be reviewed at the next meeting

#### New Business

- Dan Doak discussed the NEASC evaluation and shared copies of rubrics that identify learning expectations for high school students in the areas of citizenship, and physical and mental wellness
- Discussed enhancing opportunities for mentorship across schools
  - Seniors, 8<sup>th</sup>-graders, community class at WHS
  - Dawn Egan shared feedback from a Booster's Club open gym program for children in grades 3-6 that utilized WHS students as facilitators and was a big success

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Weyrauch